

- (b) the amount sanctioned for each of the project;
- (c) the name of the projects which are already completed and the amount spent so far on each of these projects; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to promote tourism in hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) During the first four years of the 8th Plan, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned 34 projects amounting to Rs. 498.39 lakhs to Government of Uttar Pradesh. The implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Government. The construction projects are at various stages of completion by the State Government.

- (d) The Central Department of Tourism has set up a task force for the development of tourism in the Himalayan region which includes hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Electrification of Railway Routes

2181. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to take up electrification of Ranaghat-Gede, Ranaghat-Bongaon, Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway;
- (b) if so, whether these proposals are being sent to the Planning Commission for sanction;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon sections will be taken up in phases. There is however, no proposal to electrify Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections.

- (b) and (c) The proposals for electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon sections will be sent to the Planning Commission for clearance before execution of the work.

(d) Due to constraint of resources, there is no proposal to electrify Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections.

Requirement of Additional Platforms at Chennai

2182. SHRI K. KANDASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the urgent need for having two or three more platforms at Chennai Central Railway Station for the suburban trains; and

- (b) if so, the time by which above proposal is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The available platforms are by the large adequate to cater to the present level of handling of Suburban traffic at Chennai Central Railway Station. However, to cater to the future growth in Suburban traffic provision of an additional platform at Chennai is a sanctioned work.

Charges for Telephone Call

2183. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to increase charges for a telephone call made from a fixed telephone to cellular phone in the country except four metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the STD charges will have to be paid for making a call to a mobile telephone in all parts of the country except metropolitan cities whereas only one rupee per call is charged presently; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The charges have been fixed for the first time for calls from Fixed Network (PSTN) to the Cellular Network licenced for operating in Telecom Circles. Since there was no Tariff earlier for this service, question of increase in charges does not arise.

- (b) Copy of the order is enclosed as statement.
- (c) and (d) Unit calls will be on a fixed Pulse Rate for all such calls, within a Circle.

Statement

Government of India
Ministry of Communications Department of
Telecommunications

Sanchar Bhavan,
20 Ashok Road,
New Delhi-110001

No. 106-21/96-PHC. Dated, the 29th January, 1997.

To

All CGMs Telecom Circles/
Telephone Districts,
CGM, MTNL, New Delhi/Mumbai.

Subject:— Tariff for calls originated from fixed network (PSTN) to the cellular networks licensed to operate in Telecom Circles.

Deptt. of Telecommunications has issued licences for operation of cellular mobile telephone service in Telecom Circles. The tariff for calls originated from PSTN to the cellular net-works has been fixed as follows:

(i) The intra-Circle calls will be charged at the pulse rate of 8/16/24/36 seconds per unit call, irrespective of the location of calling and called subscriber.

(ii) The inter-Circle calls will be charged at the pulse rates applicable from the originating TAX to the designated national TAX in the called Circle, i.e. the usual STD rate upto the called national TAX.

2. For inter-metro city (Calcutta, Chennai, Delhi & Mumbai) traffic, charging at the pulse rate of 2/4/6/8 seconds per unit call will continue.

3. Circlewise list of national TAXs is given in the Annexure.

4. With this arrangement the calls among the metro cities and Telecom Circles will be charged as inter-Circle calls.

5. These orders will take effect from 15th February, 1997. Necessary technical arrangements may be made in the mean time. This tariff structure may be brought to the notice of public through print media by issue of advertisements at Circle level and also at SSA level immediately. Necessary additions in the tariff information in telephone directories may be carried out for future publications.

6. Traffic studies will be carried out for a period of one year from the operationalisation of the service, detailed instructions for which will be issued separately.

7. This issues with the concurrence of Finance vide Member (Fin) Dy. No. 53, dated 2.1.1997.

-Sd-

(A.K. Mittal)
Directors(CS)

Copy to:

1. CMD MTNL, New Delhi.
2. Sr. DDG (Fin)/Sr. DDG (TEC)/DDG (MS)/DDG (NM)/DDG(VAS)/DDG(BS)/DDG (TRF).
3. CGM T&D Circle, Jabalpur.
4. Sr. GM Telephones, Ahmedabad/Bangalore.

Gauge Conversion

2184. DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI L. RAMANA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Central Railway has decided

to take up two projects, 75 Km. Gauge conversion between coastal rock and Vasco-de-Gama and 126 Km. new railway line between Yerragontala and Nandyal expeditiously:

(b) if so, the time-bound programme made by the railways for these two projects; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be involved in each project and the time by which work on these projects are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details are as under:-

Section	Anticipated Cost	Target for Completion
<i>Gauge Conversion</i>		
(i) Casterock-Vasco	Rs. 522 crores	31.3.97
<i>New Line</i>		
(i) Nandyal-Yerraguntla	Rs. 155.74 crores	Presently, the Final Location Survey and preparation of land acquisition plan and papers are in progress. Work will be taken up, once land becomes available. The project is targetted for completion in the Xth Plan period.

AC-3 Tier Coaches to Trains

2185. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Trains which are proposed to be provided AC-3 tier Coaches during the current year; and

(b) the details of other facilities which are likely to be provided for long distance travellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A.C. 3 tier sleeper coach is proposed to be provided on the following trains by March'97:-

1. 3143/3144 Darjeeling Mail
2. 2625/2626 Kerala Express
3. 5659/5660 Kamrup Express